

PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

March 20, 2003

Present:

Larry Kanzler

Dolly Macken-Hambright – Linwood Neighborhood Association

Gene Covey – Lewelling Neighborhood Association

Ray Bryan – Historic Milwaukie Neighborhood Association

Rick Bantz – Lake Road Neighborhood Association

Mary Weaver – Milwaukie Christian Church

Kanzler – asked if everyone received copies of the crime maps that Jill sent out recently to the leaders of the neighborhood associations. Dolly said her group really liked them. We're working on putting the maps on the City's website.

Kanzler is making a presentation to the Council soon regarding the Police Department's staffing levels, what happens if we aren't staffed effectively, etc. Case clearances – we are running at approximately 74% - the County is at around 24%.

Kanzler introduced Detective Sergeant Steve Bartol and explained his responsibilities in the Department.

Chief and Dolly met recently and discussed how the City is going to handle an emergency situation in the neighborhoods (emergency housing, food/water, etc.). He suggested that the neighborhood associations discuss this and decide on a gathering point (such as a school or church). The Police Department doesn't really have a response plan for something such as Anthrax, mustard gas, etc. The County's Emergency Services Manager is under the Sheriff. All the local departments, chiefs, etc. got together last year and made recommendations on where to house emergency equipment, supplies, etc. that came from a grant. Apparently the grant was never filed – so there is no equipment, training, etc. available. The County has reapplied for the grant – and has been given a verbal okay that it will receive funding – but we have to go through the process again. Chief recommended that we develop a placard system – after a disaster situation – people place a placard in their window that says they're okay so that the police don't have to go door-to-door.

Discussed a chronic nuisance address – 3740 SE King Road. The Police Department has taken 34 case numbers relating to this address and some of the people associated with the address have criminal histories, drug involvement, etc. Once we get the computer aided dispatch system we will be able to capture this type of information electronically. We will be making the switch-over of our dispatch center to Lake Oswego on the 31st of March. The mobile data computer terminals for the police cars are on their way here.

Chief asked for introductions. Mary Weaver is a member of the Milwaukie Christian Church located at 5197 King Road – and is concerned about possible drug dealing going on in the parking lot. Chief recommended that she bring up this situation at the next neighborhood association meeting – he will make sure that the officer liaison from the PD will be there. Bartol said that one of his Detectives may already be involved in investigating this situation – he will have that detective contact Mary.

Rick received a call regarding Century Park – the citizen was complaining about speeding vehicles in the area. The Chief said that we have two traffic units but they can't be everywhere at all times. The patrol officers' main duty is responding to calls. When we lose staffing – the traffic units are the first to go.

Bartol gave a presentation regarding the Detective Division, including the Police Technician, their duties, responsibilities and what is involved in a routine investigation. Identity thefts have increased by 300% in the last year in Milwaukie and an overall increase in Clackamas County of 1500%. Mail theft is the major source of information that leads to identity thefts – bills, credit card statements, credit applications, etc. Some of these cases can take months to investigate.

We will talk more about the budget at next month's meeting. Currently the City Manager is working on a budget that will cut one police officer position and the delivery clerk position.

Dolly said that someone submitted a letter to the City regarding installing stop signs in the Cedarcrest area at every intersection. They didn't have the proper forms to submit a request. Chief said they had a meeting with the City Engineers and the recommendation was that they come up with a Neighborhood Watch Program to reduce the speed in the area. There is no resolution to the complaint. 90% of citations are written to the people who live in the neighborhood.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.
